Reimbursement of Election Expenditure to States

3318. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government reimburse the expenditure incurred by State Governments on account of holding elections to Lok Sabha and State Legislature; and

(b) if so, the amount due to be paid to each State as on date?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) Yes Sir. The Government shares/bears the election expenditure with the State Governments. The reimbursement is to the extent of 50% of the total expenditure when the election to the Lok Sabha are held simultaneously with the elections to the State Legislative Assemblies. The entire expenditure, however, is borne by the Government of India if the elections to the Lok Sabha are held independently. The Government of India does not reimburse any expenditure if only the elections, for the State Legislature Assemblies are held.

(b) The process of reimbursement of election related expenditure is a continuous process and the liabilities, invariably, are carried forward to subsequent years. The Government releases money, based on annual claims preferred under various sub-heads which *inter alia,* include the expenditure incurred exclusively, for the Lok Sabha elections. The year upto which such settlement has been made varies from State to State. In view of the fact that upto date claims have not been received from all the States, it is not possible to indicate the amount payable to each State as on date.

Voter Identity Cards to Citizens in Delhi

†3319. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of citizens in Delhi who have not been issued voter identity cards so far; and

(b) whether Government are considering to initiate any programme in this regard so that all the citizens can get identity cards; if so, by when?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.